

ESTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Senior Sanitary Inspector

1953.



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The Urban District of Eston.

Chairman of the Council :
COUNCILLOR JOHN A. GAVIN.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :
COUNCILLOR MRS. S. W. METCALFE.

Committee :

Councillors Briggs, Clark, Cook, Cowie, Daley, Finegan, J. Green, J. E. Green, Hall, Herlingshaw, Jackson, Mead, Metcalfe, Rowley, Singer, Vaux and Young.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

*** Medical Officer of Health :**
JAMES A. DUNLOP, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*** Senior Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent :**

JAMES H. BURROWS, C.R.San.I., A.M.I.San.E., M.S.I.A.
(Certified Meat and Food)

*** Additional Sanitary Inspectors :**

WILLIAM VERRILL, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Certified Meat and Food).

LESLIE CORNFORTH, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Certified Meat and Food).

Clerks : NORMAN FORD.
MISS M. COLWELL.
MISS D. POWELL.

** Contributions to salary from Exchequer.*

**ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1953.**

To the Chairman and Members of
The Eston Urban District Council :

Mr. Chairman, Councillor Mrs. Metcalfe and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the health of this District for the year 1953. This is the eighteenth annual report which I have submitted.

With regard to the Vital Statistics, in some respects these are satisfactory, but in other respects they are not so. There has been a fall in the Birth Rate which is to some extent counterbalanced by a fall in the Death Rate. It is some satisfaction to note that the Birth Rate is higher and the Death Rate is lower than the corresponding rates are for the whole Country. It is when we come to the Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths of infants in the first year of life per thousand births in the year) that we find much less cause for satisfaction. The Infantile Mortality Rate this year is 40.9 as compared with 24.7. Last year in commenting on the fact that the rate then was the lowest ever recorded in this district, I pointed out that in a relatively small community such as this, there can be wide fluctuations in the rate without any special significance being attached to the variations. Nevertheless, it is disappointing to have to record such a substantial increase in the Infantile Mortality Rate. An analysis of the causes of Infant Deaths shows that the three main causes of death were Bronchopneumonia, Prematurity and Congenital abnormalities.

In previous reports I have commented on the working of the National Health Services Act. A further year has strengthened my opinion that there is too little co-operation between Regional Hospital Boards, Executive Councils and the Major Health Authorities. I am willing to believe that those in all the three bodies I have named who realise the immense possibilities under this National Health Services Act are aware of this lack of co-operation and are endeavouring to improve it, but progress in this direction appears to be very slow. In

their respective spheres each of these bodies is doing good work but if they were linked closer together, the value of their work would be greatly enhanced. I feel too that at present too much emphasis is placed on Cure. Prevention is the better way and it is the cheaper. I must here repeat what I have said on many previous occasions and that is, that in my view, the fundamental weakness in the National Health Services Act is that the representatives appointed to the various bodies are selected, not elected. After all, it is the people who have to find the money, and the spending of the money should be done by those who have been elected by and are responsible to the people. But of course this may only be possible when the people themselves demand it and this demand will come when there is in the community a greater interest in health matters. This interest can only be created by greater emphasis on Education in Health Matters. By Health Education I do not mean a series of scares on the lines of what not to do. As I see it, true Education in Health is to create a greater sense in each individual of being aware of the simple rules of healthy living and that Health is not simply the absence of disease, but is a harmonious balance between each individual and his environment.

As in previous years, I have made such comments as I thought necessary under the various sections of the report. I would, however, specially draw your attention to the very able report on Housing, which Mr. Jones, our Housing Manager, has prepared for this report. I am very grateful to Mr. Jones for his willing co-operation in this respect, and I feel sure that this report will be of the utmost value to all members.

I must again express my gratitude to the Members and Officials of the Council for the cordial help and support I have received from them during the year, and finally, I am most indebted to the Staff of the Health Department for their loyal and willing co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES A. DUNLOP,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Condition of the Area.

Population.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population of the district in the mid-year 1953 was 33,530 as compared with an estimate of population for the mid-year 1952 of 33,350.

Registrar General's estimate	mid-year	1947	...	...	31,810
"	"	1948	...	...	32,540
"	"	1949	...	...	33,060
"	"	1950	...	...	33,440
"	"	1951	...	...	33,110
"	"	1952	...	...	33,350
"	"	1953	...	...	33,530

GENERAL STATISTICS.

I am indebted to the Council's Treasurer who has supplied me with the following statistics :—

Area of the District (acres)	...	...	5,559
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books (December 1953)	...	...	9,206
Rateable value (September, 1953)	...	...	£156,188
Produce of Penny Rate (Year 1952/53)	...	£598 12s. 4d.	

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

To judge by many activities in the area, we seem to be on the threshold of major industrial developments. I have no doubt that from the point of view of Industry, this is very gratifying, but we cannot but wonder what effect this development will have on the health of the people. After all, even now, on the eve of further industrial developments, the major health problem facing this Authority, is that of Atmospheric Pollution. I have no doubt that we will be reassured by the information that the new plants to be erected will be of the very latest construction and the addition to our problem of atmospheric pollution will be very little—I do indeed hope that this will prove to be true and I am sure that Industrialists will do their

present best—but I recall similar assurances when an industrial extension took place 19 years ago. In view of these developments I feel that now is the time to review the position with regard to atmospheric pollution. In so doing, I have no wish to encroach on the work of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, whose activities in this respect can be seen in another part of this report. In this country since the days of Queen Elizabeth I, complaints have been recorded of atmospheric pollution by smoke. We seem to have made little progress in this respect in 300 years. In my opinion the real reason for this is the lack of effective legislation. The anti-pollution legislation is little changed to-day from that contained in the Public Health Act of 1875. Even such disasters as the London fog of December, 1952, have had little effect on our law makers. This Council has, since the war, shown a real awareness of the problem and an urgent desire to bring about improvements, but they are hampered by lack of any real legal power. There is an urgent need for legislation to prevent smoke pollution. For too long this country has sheltered behind the smoke-screen of a catch-phrase "Where there's muck, there's money". We will achieve something when public opinion forces our law makers to realise that "Where there's muck, there's money—wasted".

Housing continues to be a dominant social factor. It is pleasing to report that during the year a start has been made in the district on the problem of Slum Clearance. It is appropriate here to mention that as compared with older communities, we have not an extensive slum problem. For the purposes of Slum Clearance, it is the condition of the structure of the house that is the deciding factor. Unfortunately, atmospheric pollution in an area cannot of itself render the area legally liable to be considered a slum. The report of the Housing Manager in this report shows steady progress being made by this Council in housing matters.

In my last report I made reference to the very valuable work being done in the district by the Old People's Welfare Committee and by the Voluntary Care and After-care Committee. I am very pleased again to draw attention to the very fine work that is being done in this district by these two bodies. It is good to know that we have many people in this area who are willing to devote time to these very valuable and essential social services. It is also necessary to point out that both of these bodies can only do their work adequately if they have the financial support of the community.

Much of my ordinary daily work is with the Infants and School children. From my close association with these children, I can say very definitely that speaking generally, the health of the rising generation is good. I must also say that this is largely due to the very high standard of mothercraft in the area.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

Live Births :		Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	673	334
Illegitimate	36	18

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—21.1.

Rate for England and Wales—15.5

Still Births :—		Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	13	6
Illegitimate	Nil	—

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—18.

DEATHS.

Total	Male	Female
343	190	153

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—10.2.

Rate for England and Wales—11.4.

Death Rates of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	40.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			40.1
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			55.6
Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales	—	26.8.	

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS.

The deaths which occurred during the year, divided into age groups, are as follows :—

29 deaths under one year of age.

1 death over 1 and under 5 years.

3 deaths	„	5 „	„	10 „	„
2 „	„	10 „	„	15 „	„
4 „	„	15 „	„	25 „	„
20 „	„	25 „	„	45 „	„
100 „	„	45 „	„	65 „	„
94 „	„	65 „	„	75 „	„
90 „	„	75 years of age.			

ANALYSIS OF INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1953.

Cause of death	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Bronchopneumonia	2	I	—	I	4	I	2	2	—	9
Asphyxia	—	—	—	I	I	2	—	—	—	3
Prematurity	5	I	—	—	6	I	—	—	—	7
Congenital pyloric stenosis	—	—	—	I	I	—	—	—	—	I
Atelectasis	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Status epilepticus	—	—	—	—	—	—	I	—	—	I
Anaemia & cardiac failure	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Birth trauma	—	I	—	—	I	—	—	—	—	I
Multiple congenital deformities	—	—	—	I	I	I	—	—	—	2
Totals	12	3	—	4	19	5	3	2	—	29

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis ...	5	2
Syphilitic disease ...	I	—
Infective disease ...	—	I
Malignant disease (all forms) ...	26	30
Leukaemia ...	—	I
Diabetes ...	—	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	22	25
Heart diseases ...	59	29
Other circulatory disease ...	8	10
Influenza ...	—	I
Pneumonia ...	12	11
Bronchitis ...	9	3
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	I	I
Ulcer of stomach ...	I	—
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea ...	I	2
Nephritis ...	I	—
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	6	—
Pregnancy, childbirth ...	—	I
Congenital malformations ...	I	I
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	16	25
Motor accidents ...	4	I
All other accidents ...	15	5
Suicide ...	2	—
	190	153

An analysis of the above causes of death shows again that Heart Disease and associated conditions are the principal causes of death, with Malignant disease next on the list. In considering these causes of death, one fact has impressed me. There were only 7 deaths from Tuberculosis. I do feel that this is a very fine tribute to the great work now being done in the prevention and treatment of Tuberculosis. At the same time one cannot but note that 25 accidental deaths have occurred in the district. This shows I feel the great need for and the value of the work being done in Accident Prevention. I would add that there is need for greater attention to the prevention of accidents in the home.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

The details of the Staff are given at the beginning of the Report.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Laboratory facilities are provided at the Public Health Laboratory, The General Hospital, Middlesbrough. I must express my gratitude to the staff of this Laboratory for the services we have received during the year.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

As in the previous year, cases of Infectious Disease are taken to West Lane Isolation Hospital, Middlesbrough, by ambulances provided by the North Riding County Council from their Ambulance Depot at Redcar. The service has proved a very efficient one.

For the removal of General Medical and Maternity cases, an ambulance service is provided by the St. John Ambulance Brigade, who act in this area as agents of the County Council. The Brigade provides three ambulances and one sitting case car. I am indebted to Mr. J. McCallum, Divisional Superintendent of the St. John Ambulance Brigade for the following brief report on the Ambulance Service during the year :—

"The Brigade's Ambulances have conveyed 91 Road accident patients, 313 Works accidents and 10,688 other patients between their homes and the various hospitals, making a total of 11,092 patients carried and the ambulances have travelled 86,286 miles. These figures include a very large number of patients who attend the Out-patient departments of the hospitals weekly over long periods".

It is interesting to note the increasing use made of the Ambulance services. Last year the number of patients carried was 10,389 and the miles travelled by the ambulances 80,930.

NURSING IN THE HOMES.

The Home Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery Service is under the general direction of the County Council, with the day to day administration dealt with by the Eston Area Local Health Sub-Committee. The staff employed consists of 8 Midwives, 5 full-time District Nurses and 2 relief Nurses.

During the year, the Midwives attended 380 births and paid in all a total number of visits of 12,036.

During the year the Home Nurses paid 20,685 visits to 482 cases.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

2 full-time and 10 part-time Domestic Helps are employed in the district and they have given help in 109 cases (6 maternity cases, 4 T.B. cases, 93 chronic sick, aged and infirm cases and 6 acute illness).

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

All Clinics and Treatment Centres in the area are under the control of the North Riding County Council.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances.

Details of the sanitary conditions in the area are dealt with in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION D. HOUSING.

Housing details are given in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector. I am very pleased to incorporate here a special report on housing prepared by Mr. Jones, Housing Manager.

" During the year, 217 new dwellings were completed as follows :—

Type of Dwelling	Location					Totals
	Grangetown (S. Section)	Manor Green Normanby	Redcar Rd. E. S. Bank	Granville Road, Grangetown	Crossbeck Normanby	
Aged Persons' Bungalows	4	—	—	—	—	4
Two-bedroomed houses	2	4	20	9	—	35
Three-bedroomed houses ...	17	10	66	43	18	154
Four-bedroomed houses ...	5	—	12	7	—	24
	28	14	98	59	18	217

By the end of 1953, the number of dwellings built by the Council totalled 2,565, of which 1,207 had been erected under the post-war building programme. Details are as follows :—

Type of Dwelling	No. built pre-war	No. built post-war	Totals
Aged Persons' Bungalows	142	94	236
Two-bedroomed houses (including temporary houses)	443	310	753
Three-bedroomed houses	707	767	1,474
Four-bedroomed houses	66	36	102
	1,358	1,207	2,565

As a result of dwellings completed and vacancies, a total of 263 families were rehoused during the year. Details will be found in the housing section of the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report.

Satisfactory progress continues to be made in the rehousing of families which contain a sufferer from Tuberculosis and in respect of which the Medical Officer of Health has recommended rehousing.

The demand for houses is in no way diminished as evidenced by the fact that 298 applications were registered during 1953, excluding dollar export workers' applications. Some of these never reach the stage of being considered, chiefly on account of the applicants providing themselves with houses, but it would seem that not less than 200 houses per annum are required to keep pace with the current demand from ordinary and special industrial applicants. It is obvious, therefore, that to make reasonable inroads into the waiting list and to tackle slum clearance, even if in only a modest way, about 300 houses per annum will be required.

SECTION E. Meat and other Foods.

This is dealt with by the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION F. Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases.

Infectious Diseases amongst children in the area :—

		Under 5 years.	Over 5 years.
Scarlet Fever	...	45	50
Measles	...	288	146
Whooping Cough	...	25	7
Sonne Dysentery	...	4	1
Meningococcal infection		1	1
Diphtheria	...	Nil.	Nil.

As compared with the previous year, there is nothing that calls for special comment. During the year there was a substantial increase in the number of cases of Measles—434 cases this year compared with 160 cases in the previous year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

495 children were immunised for the first time during the year and 515 children previously immunised received a reinforcing dose.

During the year a change was made from the policy of immunising against Diphtheria only. Now the parents are offered a combined immunisation against both Diphtheria and Whooping Cough. This involves the giving of 3 injections as against 2 injections in the case of immunising against Diphtheria alone. I am pleased to say that practically all parents asked for the combined immunisation, the only exception being in those cases where the child had already had Whooping Cough. As will be noted, this involves a 50% increase in the number of injections given, which adds considerably to the work. A more important disadvantage is that it now means that the parent has to bring the child 3 times instead of twice. In mothers with young families, this constitutes rather a problem, and I think explains why our numbers attending are rather less than previously.

Immunisation position at the end of the year :

Infants :

Of 3,356 children under 5 years, 2,153 or 64% (71%) are immunised against Diphtheria.

Of 2,715 children aged 1—5 years, 2,108 or 78% (85%) are immunised against Diphtheria.

359 children under 5 years have been immunised against Whooping Cough.

The most significant factor in these figures is that very few children under 1 year are immunised (45 in a total of 641). This is unfortunate as it is very desirable that the immunising course should be completed before the child reaches the first birthday. A child is most vulnerable to Diphtheria in the first year of life. The figures in brackets indicate the position at the end of 1952. It will be noted that the percentage immunised is less this year. I feel that this can in some measure be accounted for by the fact that 3 visits have to be paid instead of 2.

School Children :

Of 6,049 children on the school registers at 31.12.53, 5,863 or 97% (95%) are immunised.

Of 6,049 children on the school registers at 31.12.53, 4,990 or 82% (83%) are reinforced.

Once again, the figures in brackets indicate the position at the end of 1952. It appears by comparison that we are maintaining our position.

Number of cases of Diphtheria and deaths from Diphtheria in the district since 1943 when immunisation commenced —

	Cases.	Deaths.
1943	...	49
1944	...	44
1945	...	24
1946	...	14
1947	...	5
1948	...	2
1949	...	1
1950	...	Nil
1951	...	Nil
1952	...	Nil
1953	...	Nil

I think that we have every reason to be pleased with the high percentage of children in this area who have been protected from Diphtheria. It is most gratifying to have to report that for the fourth successive year, no case of Diphtheria has occurred in this area. I think there can be no doubt as to the value of Immunisation but I am of the opinion that the very success of our efforts leads to the danger of complacency. The very fact that there have been no cases for 4 years is apt to lull us into a false sense of security. In this connection I would draw your attention to the fact that this year 495 children were immunised for the first time as compared with 881 in the previous year. I am afraid that this bears out the suggestion that since Diphtheria has been practically wiped out, parents are showing less keenness to have their children protected. It is well to remember that despite our past freedom, a case of Diphtheria could occur at any time in our area, brought in perhaps by an adult not protected by immunisation. If this should happen, we must remember that even if 97% of our school children are immunised, there are at least 200 children in the area who have been denied the protection, and these children would act as a reservoir for the spread of the infection. Our only hope is by constant effort, to increase the number of children immunised and to give them further protection by reinforcing doses. This demands steady continuous propaganda and involves much extra work but in this respect we are greatly helped by the continued efforts of the School Nurses, the very active support of the Head Teachers and the ready assistance of the Local Press who never fail to help with publicity when asked to do so.

ANALYSIS OF THE TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) IN AGE GROUPS.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE WARDS.

WARD	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Menigococcal Infection	Dysentery	Food Poisoning
Normanby	81	22	2	8	—	I	—	I	I
North West	26	7	8	—	I	2	—	2	I
East Central	81	12	5	I	—	—	—	2	2
West Central	15	12	5	2	—	—	I	—	I
Harcourt	10	8	—	I	—	—	—	—	—
Tilery ...	37	10	3	—	I	—	—	—	—
Grangetown	146	9	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Bank	15	12	—	3	—	I	I	—	I
Branch ...	31	9	3	I	I	—	—	I	—
Total	442	101	32	16	3	4	2	6	6

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1953.

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year and of all deaths from this disease are shown in the following table in age groups :—

Age Groups	CASES NOTIFIED				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and 5 years	2	I	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 and 10 years	I	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
10 and 15 years	I	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 and 20 years	I	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 and 25 years	I	6	—	2	—	—	—	—
25 and 35 years	6	4	—	—	I	—	—	—
35 and 45 years	4	3	—	I	—	I	—	—
45 and 55 years	8	—	I	—	2	—	I	—
55 and 65 years	3	I	—	—	I	I	—	—
65 years and over	I	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	28	22	3	3	4	2	I	—

The total number of cases notified shows a decrease of 6 as compared with 1952. The number of deaths which occurred is the same as in 1952.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR, 1953.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Eston Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

It affords me great pleasure to submit my sixth Annual Report concerning the activities of the Sanitary and Cleansing Department for the year, 1953.

Housing repairs have been steadily maintained during the year although Builders have encountered labour difficulties owing to the more attractive prospects which can be obtained on works in connection with the huge industrial developments which are taking place within and just without your District.

Towards the end of the year inspections were commenced relative to one Clearance Area.

Your Authority continued to take an active part in the efforts of the Tees-Side Smoke Abatement Committee to improve the air of Tees-Side.

Refuse Collection was continued as a once weekly service to each property throughout the year. Salvage was steadily collected and regularly disposed of each month. The land reclamation project commenced towards the end of the year 1952 by means of Controlled Tipping of Refuse was completed during the year of this report and is now suitable for use as allotments.

The various duties completed by the Department are dealt with more fully and in detail in the main body of the report.

In conclusion I would like to extend my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, Chief Officials, Health Department Staff and Workmen of the Cleansing Department for their cordial relationship and willingness to assist in day to day problems for without which a successful year's work could not have been achieved.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

**JAMES H. BURROWS,
Senior Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.**

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under (b)) ...	224
(b) (1)	For Local Authority —Permanent ...	217
(2)	—Temporary ...	nil
(3)	Other than Local Authority ...	7

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1,399
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	3,118
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	nil
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	nil
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	1,399

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices :—

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	1,381
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	nil

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—					
(a) By Owners	...	...	...	...	I
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	...	...	nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	40
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after the service of notices :—					
(a) By Owners	...	...	...	...	39
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	...	...	nil
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Acts, 1936 :—					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	nil
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Acts, 1936 :—					
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	nil

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding :—

No post-war survey of the District has been made, but all housing applications are checked for the purposes of overcrowding and conditions of cleanliness. Thus close liaison is maintained between the Housing and Health Departments in the letting of all Council Houses.

I am indebted to the Housing Manager for the following information :

During the year approximately 298 applications were received by your Authority for Council Houses and records of lettings were as follows :—

Sub-tenants	...	...	...	137
Overcrowded families	...	...	...	48
Tuberculosis in family	...	...	...	7
Aged Persons	...	...	...	18
Dollar Export Workers	...	...	...	49
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	4
				—
Total	...	...	...	263
				—

WATER.

This commodity is obtained in bulk from the undertaking of the Tees Valley Water Board. This Authority through their own staff obtain regular samples both at source and at various user points both for chemical and bacteriological analysis. A summary of the results for the year 1953 has been forwarded by the General Manager of the undertaking to whom I desire to express my appreciation.

Details of the summarised report are as follows :

The water supply to the area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity during the year 1953.

Eight bacteriological samples of raw water were examined per month. The water is tested as it leaves the works and also at points in the area.

Approximately 55 samples were taken for bacteriological examination each month and they showed the water to be of satisfactory bacteriological purity.

The water supply is not liable to have any plumbo-solvent action.

The water is purified by slow sand filtration, followed by treatment with ammonia and chlorine. Water which has been in open service reservoirs is also chlorinated before passing into supply.

LARTINGTON GRAVITATION SUPPLY.

Summary of Results 1953.

Chemical Results expressed as parts per million.

		Average.	Maximum.	Minimum.
pH.	...	7.0	7.3	6.8
Colour (Hazen units)	...	90	200	35
Total Solids	...	85	110	75
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	5.5	9	3
Chlorides	...	6.5	8	5
Alkalinity	...	35	40	20
Total Hardness	...	50	55	40
Temporary Hardness (Carbonate Hardness)	...	35	40	20
Permanent Hardness (Non-carbonate Hardness)	...	15	20	10
Nitrogen in Nitrates	...	0.2	1.2	nil.
Nitrogen in Nitrites	...	<0.01	0.01	nil.
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	...	0.033	0.170	nil.
Albuminoid Nitrogen	...	0.070	0.140	0.030
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	...	7.7	14.0	4.0
Iron	...	0.10	0.30	0.03
Turbidity	...	<3	<3	nil.
Conductivity	...	110	140	90

< = Less than.

Bacteriological Results.

		Average.	Maximum.	Minimum.
Colony count per ml. at 37° C after 1 day.	...	4	12	nil.
Colony count per ml. at 37° C after 2 days	...	6	17	1
Colony count per ml. at 20° C after 3 days.	...	4	13	nil.
Percentage of samples giving a Presumptive Coliform reaction per 100 ml.	...	...	...	1.0
Percentage of samples giving B. Coli (Type I) per 100 ml.	...	...	...	0.5

At the request of the Public Health Laboratory Service, bacteriological samples of water were obtained from those premises manufacturing the commodity "Iced Lollipops". In all, six samples of tap water were obtained from various parts of the District and all proved to be satisfactory.

Domestic Supply.

During the year 11 houses were provided with internal piped water supplies. The survey of houses without internal water supply was completed during the year and it is the intention to deal with all the affected properties as opportunity arises.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

New Housing continued to be developed throughout the District. Sewers have been extended and new drainage provided to properties. The major scheme for development of the District, namely the "New Trunk Sewer" is as yet in abeyance, but its importance cannot be overstressed because housing development is becoming so site restricted and will remain as such until adequate sewerage facilities are available.

Six Squatters' Huts remain at Teesport and these with the exception of three outlying farmsteads are the only properties which are not provided with water carriage system.

DITCHES AND WATER-COURSES.

Twenty-two visits were made by Inspectors in connection with Ditches and Water-courses. In relation to works of clearance and removal of obstructions this was referred to the Department of the Engineer and Surveyor.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

All properties in the District except Squatters' Huts at Teesport and a few outlying farmsteads are provided with water closets. The Squatters' Huts are provided with Pail Closets which are serviced weekly by the Department.

224 Water closets were installed in newly built properties in the District during the year and this makes a total of 9,279 water closets which are in being in this District.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following is a tabulated statement of the number and nature of the inspections carried out during the year under the various Acts, Orders and Bye-laws in force within the District :—

Inspections under Public Health Act, etc.	...	...	...	1,329
Re-inspections under above relative to Houses	...	...	...	1,732
Interviews with Builders, Owners and others	...	...	...	1,715
Complaints investigated	...	...	...	548

Inspection of :—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	40
Dairies and Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	42
Butchers' Shops, Slaughterhouses and Distributing Depot						53
Markets and Food Stores	...	...	...	...	...	496
Fish and Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	65
Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	124
Works of Building operations	...	...	...	...	...	8
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	I
Public Halls and other Buildings			...	...	...	4
Conveniences (Public)	...	...	...	...	...	146
Rat Infested Premises	...	...	...	...	...	1526
Verminous and filthy Premises	...	...	...	...	...	206
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	235
Terminal Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	203
Drain Examinations	...	...	...	...	...	550
Registered Preparation Rooms—Food and Drugs Act	...					81
Refuse Collection, Disposal, Salvage and Street Sweeping						1200
Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	8
Miscellaneous Visits not enumerated above	...	...	...	...	...	524

**SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER
NOTICES SERVED.**

The various works completed during the year under notices served or on intimation to owners or occupiers are as appended below :—

House and General.

Number of :—

Chimneys and Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	371
Spoutings and rainwater pipes renewed			...	...	...	402
Walls rebuilt or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	164
Floors relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	81
Ceilings and wall-plasters repaired	...	...	...	...	...	264
Window frames and sash cords repaired			...	...	...	145
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	...	41
Doors and frames repaired	...	...	...	...	...	242
Sinks and waste pipes repaired or provided			...	...	...	77
Setpots repaired	...	...	...	...	...	5
House water supplies repaired			...	...	...	89
Yard surfaces relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	21
Refuse bins renewed	...	...	...	...	...	146
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Premises Cleansed and Redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	16
Accumulations of Rubbish removed	...	...	...	...	...	10

House Drainage.

Drains tested, relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	245
New gullies, traps or grids provided	...	...	...	...	31
Stoppages in drains removed by Owners	...	...	...	...	76
Stoppages in drains removed by Council without Notices being served	...	...	...	...	1158

Water Closets.

Number of :—

Additional Accommodation Provided	...	...	...	...	10
Water supplies repaired	...	...	...	...	374
Cisterns renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	173
Basins renewed	...	...	...	...	38
Other repairs	...	...	...	...	91
Stoppages in drains removed by Owners	...	...	...	...	49
Stoppages in drains removed by Council without Notices being served	...	...	...	...	261

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no common lodging houses in use within this District.

COMPLAINTS.

The various types of complaints received by the Department during the year are hereunder tabulated.

Housing defects and rat and/or mice infestations remain to the fore, the latter having received sufficient publicity for the housing community in general to realise that the Department can offer them an efficient and quick moving service which is most necessary when infestations of this type do occur.

A study of the housing works completed during 1953 under notices served by the Department proves that works of repair to existing properties have been steadily maintained, even though labour for this type of work is not so readily available in this District.

Drain stoppages	...	...	...	...	...	186
Housing defects	...	...	...	...	...	279
Dilapidated Refuse Bins	...	...	...	...	...	239
Verminous conditions	...	...	...	...	...	25
Rat and/or Mice infestations	...	...	...	...	...	148
Accumulations of Refuse	...	...	...	...	...	17
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	137

At private premises in the District, a total of 1,419 drains were cleared by the workmen of the Department during the year. These stoppages were of a minor character and were cleared by vacuum pump thus removing an objectionable nuisance with the minimum of delay.

SHOPS.

305 visits were made to shops in the District. At 16 premises unsatisfactory conditions were found, and after service of notices the undermentioned conditions were remedied.

Premises cleansed and redecorated	...	10
Repairs executed	...	3
Washing facilities (Hot and cold water, etc. provided)		4

It became known that certain of the small shop-keepers with mixed type of shops were finding difficulty in differentiating between general closing hours and those applicable to confectionery. These people were visited and advice given which is, in my opinion, to be preferred as against direct proceedings being instituted.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Five "Standard Deposit Gauges" continued to be sited in your District throughout the year. "Short Analysis" readings were obtained monthly whilst "Long Analysis" was obtained for the months of January, September and December together with Ferric Oxide Deposit readings.

Appended herewith are the averages obtained throughout the year on both "Short Analysis" and "Long Analysis."

STANDARD DEPOSIT GAUGES.

Monthly averages for period ending 31st December, 1953.

Short Analysis.

Site	P.H.	Undissolved Matter (Tons/Sq. Mile)	Dissolved Matter (Tons/Sq. Mile)	Total Deposited (Tons/Sq. Mile)	Rainfall (Inches)
Cleveland House, Grangetown	...	6.26	57.84	8.39	66.23
Lanny's, Grangetown	...	6.3	12.97	5.85	18.83
Labour Exchange, South Bank	...	6.3	20.10	7.33	27.43
St. Peter's Modern School, South Bank	...	6.2	11.37	6.74	18.11
Crossbeck Convent, Normanby	...	5.9	8.28	6.53	14.81
					1.36
					1.60

Long Analysis.

REPORT ON AVERAGE RESULTS FROM LONG ANALYSIS READINGS OBTAINED DURING MONTHS
OF JANUARY, SEPTEMBER AND DECEMBER, 1953.
DEPOSITS EXPRESSED IN TONS PER SQUARE MILE.

	Total Solids	Undissolved Matter	Tarry Matter	Ash	Combustible Matter	Fe_2O_3 (included in Ash)	Dissolved Matter	Sulphate (as SO_4)	pH	Rainfall Inches
Cleveland House, Grangetown	45.02	36.25	0.44	21.52	14.29	10.21	8.77	3.30	6.3	0.96
Lanny's, Grangetown	22.21	15.08	0.23	9.10	5.74	3.67	7.13	2.61	6.3	1.00
Labour Exchange, South Bank	30.84	19.80	0.15	13.09	6.56	6.09	11.04	3.94	6.4	0.61
St. Peter's R.C. Modern School	17.19	10.01	0.14	7.05	2.81	3.50	7.19	2.73	6.1	0.91
Crossbeck Convent, Normandy	14.74	8.58	0.22	4.93	3.43	1.53	6.16	2.27	6.0	1.16

The following notes are given as guidance in considering the "Long Analysis".

Tarry Matter.—Due to inefficient combustion, this is emitted chiefly from the domestic chimney, although Coke Oven practice and other processes of coal distillation can be contributory factors.

Ash.—This in the main is emitted from the Boiler House Chimney, and as is common on Tees-side from Blast Furnace Practice.

Fe_2O_3 (Ferric Oxide).—This is confined in this District to emissions from the Iron and Steel Industries and is present in all gauges.

Combustible Matter.—This includes Tarry Matter and smoke emitted in the main from Domestic Chimneys, although large quantities of coke particles are emitted during quenching processing in connection with Coke Oven Practice and ash from boilers invariably contains a percentage of combustible matter.

Sulphates as SO_4 .—Sulphur compounds are emitted to the atmosphere during the burning of raw coal and coke and originates from both Factory and Domestic chimneys.

pH Value.—This shows the alkalinity or acidity of the rainwater content collected in the Deposit Gauge and is a useful index to pollution from the burning of coal and coke.

In considering total solids in relation to Long and Short Analysis, it will be noted that Cleveland House and Labour Exchange sites are most heavily affected in your District.

Long Analysis indicates that Combustible Matter and Ash is exceptionally heavy at Cleveland House, no doubt this can be attributed in the main to Coke Oven and Blast Furnace practices which are in close proximity, the quenching process in coke manufacture contributing in no small measure.

It is interesting to note that Ferric Oxide was wide spread throughout all parts of the District, being collected in all gauges.

In so far as Tarry Matter and Sulphates are concerned these in the main are produced from the domestic chimney where bituminous coal is burnt although leakages from Coke Ovens will contribute, as can be seen from Deposits recorded at Cleveland House and Labour Exchange.

During the year a Mobile Exhibition visited your District. This was an effort sponsored by the Tees-Side Smoke Abatement Committee when through the Solid Smokeless Fuels Federation the exhibition visited the various Authorities on Tees-Side. In so far as your own District was concerned the exhibition was well supported by the general public, housewives in particular being interested in the various types and designs of smokeless fuel burning appliances on view and in use at the time of the visit.

My opinion is that some good will have been derived from the exhibition, especially when one considers that all your Authority's Post War Houses have been fitted with fireplaces of the smokeless type and these fittings to be used efficiently, must burn smokeless fuel in a proper manner. Council House tenants and others who visited the exhibition may have received some guidance on the efficient use of the modern type of fireplaces, which is a most essential point.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There are no licensed sites within the District. Travelling Hawkers paid their usual visits to the outlying parts of your Area and struck camp until requested to move on. This mode of enforced movement does not give satisfaction to the Department as the people concerned exist under extremely poor standards of living, they usually have a number of small children and the families generally live under overcrowded conditions. One cannot improve or educate these people in better hygienic standards as they prefer to be on the move, evidence of their short sojourn in the District is noted by the amount of debris which is left behind.

At this stage I would like to pay tribute to the Local Police for their ready co-operation whenever asked to assist in evicting campers from the District.

SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no Public Swimming Baths in your Authority's District, although I would suggest that there is a demand for such amongst the youth of the Area.

ERADICATION OF BUGS, FLEAS AND COCKROACHES.

As has previously been reported, close liaison has been kept in being between this Department and that of Housing.

The houses of pre-selected tenants and others who desire Council Houses are inspected for presence of vermin and general cleanliness. Those found to be infested or dirty are reported upon to your Housing Committee, who have wisely adopted delayed letting tactics which in effect have given the tenants concerned the opportunity to have the infested or dirty house thoroughly sprayed and cleansed, and they thus appreciate that clean conditions are desired on gaining Council tenancy.

106 visits were made during the year by members of the Staff relative to Council House letting and in all 17 houses were disinfested by the Department.

Certain industrial firms in the District appreciated the value of the Department's disinfecting capabilities as can be seen from the fact that your Authority was engaged for works of disinfection during 10 periods in the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE.

Protective Clothing in the form of two sets of overalls and jackets was distributed to each employee of the Department during the year.

The various services of the Department are given in greater detail hereunder :—

Refuse Collection.

Six motor vehicles were employed on this work, the vehicles in question being, 3 Karrier C.K.3 (each 12 cub. yd. capacity), and 3 Karrier Bantams (each 7 cub. yd. capacity). At the time of writing it is possible to state that your Authority have decided to replace one of the smaller vehicles with a modern type vehicle complete with loader's cab, and of a larger carrying capacity. This replacement will allow the Department to keep abreast of the ever increasing work due to new houses which are gradually being brought into being.

During the year weekly collection of refuse from all premises has been reasonably maintained.

The average number of bins collected each week during the year was 10,025 whilst the total number of loads of refuse removed to the tip was 4,633 the equivalent of approximately 8,700 tons.

The annual cost of Refuse Collection work for the financial year ended 31st March, 1954 was £11,030 which is the equivalent of approximately £1 5s. 4d. per ton.

The annual cost of repairs and maintenance of vehicles of the Department amounted to £480. The Department carry out their own vehicle repairs and this is most necessary when a fixed amount of work has to be completed each week and in order to do this, vehicle repairs must be completed without delay and so cause no inconvenience to the Department and householders in general.

Suitable labour was not good to keep owing to the possibility of a person obtaining a bigger pay packet when employed by other industrial concerns which are at present developing in the District. Here, regular overtime appears to be a feature of employment whilst the work of the Cleansing Department does not include for augmented pay packet by regular overtime. Thus good labour is not attracted to Cleansing Department work.

Lost time and costs due to sickness of workmen occurring during the year are itemised below and I have indicated in brackets, for comparison the figures as applicable to the previous year.

Sick Pay.		Absence.
Days.	Amount.	Days.
541 (499)	£406 6s. 8d. (£382 13s. 1d.)	114 (110)

Refuse Disposal.

The work of reclaiming the piece of land known as "Wards" Allotment Field, Skippers Lane, South Bank, was completed during the year. The job was rather inconvenienced by heavy rains and subsequent flooding but the outcome proved that the method used in lifting this low lying piece of land, namely "Trench Fill" was

justified. The land has now been properly soiled and is suitable for letting as allotments. In all, approximately 6.2 acres of land has been reclaimed.

On the conclusion of the above project, which provided for approximately 8 months' of tipping, refuse disposal reverted back to the "Clay Hole" of the South Bank Brick Company. At the time of writing a further scheme of land reclamation is to be shortly commenced for the North Riding County Council Education Authority. This, in effect, is the filling in by controlled tipping of a ravine known as "Low Cow Howl" to provide a playing field for the adjoining school. It is estimated that this project will give at least 2 years' of tipping to your Authority.

The "Muledozer" continued to give much useful service on the work of disposal, consolidation and covering of refuse. The machine was procured in October, 1949 and the only item of major expenditure in connection with the machine has been the purchasing of a new set of Rotaped Tracks, the originals being worn beyond further use. The machine is both labour and time saving and has been more than an asset to the Department especially when one considers that labour in this District and for this type of work is not easy to obtain.

Disposal costs for the year ending 31st March, 1954 amounted to £1,060 which is the equivalent of approximately 2s. 5d. per ton.

Salvage.

This service is worked in conjunction with that of Refuse Collection. The refuse vehicles are each fitted with a trailer in which salvage collected from households and business premises, during normal refuse collection visits, is conveyed to North Street Depot for sorting and baling. Your Authority have a contract with Messrs. Thames Board Mills Ltd., to whom all salvaged waste paper is consigned.

Kitchen waste collections were considerably increased during the year when by arrangement with the North Riding County Council Education Authority your Authority were authorised to collect this valuable material from the schools in the District. This is collected twice per week and together with waste from certain of the works' canteens is taken to the processing plant of the adjoining County Borough Authority.

The weight and values of the various materials salvaged during the year ending 31st March, 1954, are appended herewith :—

Materials	Weight				Values. £ s. d.
	T.	C.	Qrs.	Ibs.	
Paper ...	147	15	2	—	960 16 11
Bottles & Jars ...					1 16 9
Textiles ...	8	18	3	7	144 18 8
Non-Ferrous Metals ...	1	2	2	11	91 6 10
Kitchen Waste ...	55	19	—	—	215 18 9
Scrap Iron and Unbaled Tins ...	16	14	—	—	90 19 0
	230	9	3	18	£1,505 16 11

The total returns obtained from sales of salvaged materials were considerably less than those obtained during the previous year. This is accounted for due to the considerable reduction in waste paper contract prices and the fact that the Mills found it necessary to restrict tonnage on a population basis to each Authority who had a contract with them.

Street Sweeping.

This work is carried out by the "Street Sweeper/Collector Machine" and manual labour. County roads are dealt with by machine whilst other roads are in the main dealt with by manual labour employed on the Beat System.

Difficulty is encountered in keeping back streets in which Air Raid Shelters are erected, clean. The Department give weekly attention to back streets but the presence of shelters does give the opportunity to irresponsible people to dump rubbish and this, owing to the dark ill lit condition of the shelters, is rather difficult to detect and available labour does not warrant that other than once weekly attention be given to shelter cleansing.

In the interests of hygiene I must once more advocate that these shelters be demolished.

The cost of Street Sweeping work for the financial year ending 31st March, 1954 was £5,900 part of which is recoverable from the County Council.

Gulley Cleaning.

This work is carried out by means of Motor Gulley Emptier. The efficiency of the machine necessitates that each gulley is serviced every eight weeks. The number of street gullies cleansed during the year was 4,400 and cost involved for the financial year ending, 31st March, 1954, was £840 part of which is recoverable from the County Council.

Sewer Flushing.

This work is carried out most expeditiously with the aid of the Motor Gully Emptier. The machine has a capacity of 750 gallons and can be readily available in case of emergency.

Snow Removal and Gritting.

No great inconvenience was caused to the Department during the year by the necessity of snow removal. Snowfalls were only slight, however a number of hard frosts did occur and these necessitated the gritting of main roads. This work was carried out by the Street Sweeping and Refuse Collection personnel and no outside labour was employed. The work of grit spreading was in the main done by machine. This provides a quick and efficient method of covering the main roads in the early hours before the daily traffic comes into use.

FACTORIES.

78 visits of inspection were made to Factories in your District, and at 4 Factories defects were found to exist and these were remedied by informal action.

A copy of Form 572 Factories Act, 1937 and 1948 is appended herewith.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
in respect of the year 1953 for the Urban District of Eston in the
County of Yorkshire.

PART I OF THE ACT.

I. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

	Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by local Authorities	15	18	—	—
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	69	58	3	—
(iii)	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises)	2	2	1	—
	Total ...	86	78	4	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned at two three or more "cases".)

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Reme-died	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	2	2	—	I	—	
Overcrowding (S. 2) ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Unreasonable Temperature (S. 3) ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6) ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)						
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	4	—	I	—	
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	I	I	—	I	—	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Total ...	6	7	—	3	—	

PART VIII OF THE ACT.
OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111).

There was a NIL return in respect of OUTWORK for the year.

SECTION E.

Meat and other Foods.

English meat supplied to your District continued to be Slaughtered and Inspected in the adjoining County Borough at the two Controlled Slaughterhouses of the Ministry of Food. English and Imported meats allocated to your District for distribution are then dealt with via the South Bank Distributing Depot.

A tabulated list of condemned foods dealt with during the year is appended herewith :—

Hindquarter of Beef	...	...	224 lbs.
Legs of Pork	...	...	15 lbs.
Pressed Pork	...	...	6 lbs.
Corned Beef	...	...	14 lbs.
Cooked Ham	...	...	144 lbs.
Jellied Veal	...	...	33 lbs.
Brawn, etc.	...	...	2 lbs.
Sausage	...	...	143 lbs.
Dried Fruit	...	...	80 lbs.
Fresh Fruit	...	...	99 lbs.
Wet Fish	...	...	140 lbs.
Tinned Fruit	...	...	416 tins
,, Preserves	...	...	22 tins
,, Vegetables	...	...	241 tins
,, Meats	...	...	106 tins
,, Milk	...	...	125 tins
,, Fish	...	...	32 tins
,, Soup	...	...	19 tins
Pickles	...	...	4 jars
Salad Cream	...	...	2 jars
Faggotts	...	...	3 doz.

The approximate amounts of meat, exclusive of offals dealt with at the South Bank Distributing Depot during the year was :—

Home Killed :

Sides of Beef	...	2,226	Quarters of Beef	...	939
Calves	...	10	Calves	...	—
Pigs	...	1,593	Pigs	...	114
Sheep and Lambs	...	4,761	Sheep and Lambs	...	8,424

Other Imported and Tinned Meats :

Pork Joints	...	...	...	8,818 lbs.
Corned Meats	...	...	...	8,892 lbs.

14 Self Suppliers' Pigs slaughtered under Ministry of Food licences were examined by the Staff of the Department.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

20 Slaughtermen's Licences were issued during the year. These in the main were for the purpose of killing and dressing of Self Suppliers' Pigs.

Registered Food Preparation Rooms.

During the year 81 visits were made in connection with Food Preparation Rooms, at 13 premises works of repair and cleansing were deemed necessary and this work was completed on informal action.

There are 11 restaurant kitchens in the District, 5 of these being in connection with works canteens, the remainder being in use with small cafes of the snack bar type.

Each of the premises were visited during the year and all found to be conducted in a satisfactory manner.

Food Stores and Markets.

496 visits were made to Food Stores and Markets throughout the year. The South Bank Market continued to flourish and was held weekly. The Grangetown Market is only small, but there is a demand for this Market to be kept in being each Saturday, the stalls in the main comprising Fruit and Vegetables.

During the year 4 newly occupied premises were provided with suitable washing facilities for those handling foodstuffs and it can be recorded that from the outcome of your Authority's Food Hygiene Campaign in the year 1950, all food premises in the District have been provided with proper washing facilities, including hot and cold water supply on tap, for the use of those employed on the handling of food.

Bakehouses.

There are 11 bakehouses situated in your District and 40 inspections were made to these premises throughout the year. Works of cleansing and repairs were carried out at 5 premises on the instigation of informal action by the Department. The majority of the bakehouses in your area are well conducted.

Fish Shops.

There are 30 Fish Frying Shops and 5 Wet Fish Shops in the District. 65 visits were paid to these premises throughout 1953, and at 3 premises works of repair, cleansing and redecorating were complied on verbal intimation being given after inspection. Inspections revealed that the majority of these shops and premises are conducted under satisfactory conditions of hygiene.

Ice Cream.

A total of 85 premises are registered with your Authority, of these 6 premises are registered for the Manufacture, Storage and Sale of the commodity whilst the remainder are registered for sale and storage only. Shops selling and storing the commodity are in the main of the "General Dealer" type and here they are required to provide a refrigerated storage cabinet, and instal hot and cold washing facilities

before registration is recommended to your Authority. The majority of the Ice Cream is supplied by wholesalers from outside your District and is in general pre-packed. There is no doubt that selling the commodity under registered conditions from shops is much to be preferred to the selling of loose Ice Cream by street vendors who cannot apply reasonable hygienic standards during sale.

During the year 29 samples of Ice Cream were obtained and submitted for Bacteriological Analysis the results being as follows :—

- 11 samples—Provisional Grade I.
- 7 samples—Provisional Grade II.
- 8 samples—Provisional Grade III.
- 3 samples—Provisional Grade IV.

Iced Lollipops.

6 samples of Iced Lollipops together with 6 samples of tap water were obtained and submitted for Bacteriological Analysis. All samples proved to be satisfactory.

A survey of all shop premises known to be manufacturing Iced Lollipops was carried out, the intention being to identify those premises known to be using metallic trays. Arising from this survey samples were obtained from 4 manufacturers found to be using metal trays, and these were submitted to the Public Analyst to ascertain possible metallic contamination. The results are appended herewith:—

	Lead Parts per million.	Copper Parts per million.
Sample No. 1	... 1.2	0.7
Sample No. 2	... 2.0	0.3
Sample No. 3	... 0.8	0.4
Sample No. 4	... 2.4	0.2

Whilst the quantities of metal contamination were found to be very minute, opportunity was taken to circularise all manufacturers against the use of metal trays. This, in my opinion, is to be preferred as against the use of a material which no doubt tends to disintegrate when the chemical action of the fruit acids used to manufacture the Lollipops comes into contact with the metal trays and moulds.

MILK SUPPLY.

Distributors.

There are 46 premises registered with your Authority. These are in the main shops of the "General Dealer" type who are retailing special designated milks supplied to them by licensed dealers. The majority of the milk consumed in your area is "Pasteurised" whilst a small amount of "Tuberculin Tested" farm bottled is also retailed.

A summary of Special Designated Licences issued by your Authority during the year are appended :—

23 Dealers' Licences in relation to Pasteurised Milk.

10	"	"	"	Tuberculin Tested Milk.
41	"	"	"	Sterilised Milk.

4 Supplementary Licences in relation to Pasteurised Milk.

4	"	"	"	Tuberculin Tested Milk
3	"	"	"	Sterilised Milk.

Sampling.

5 Informal samples were obtained and tested in the Department for Chemical Analysis. The highest Fat Content recorded was 4.0% whilst the lowest was 3.2%, the average Fat Content of all samples being 3.58%.

None of the samples recorded a "Solids not Fat" reading of less than 8.5%.

As your Authority are not a Food and Drugs Authority, I feel that the practice of sampling informally should be kept in being, until such time as these powers be obtained, otherwise no information would be to hand as to the Chemical standard of the milks consumed by the Public in your Area.

During the year, 54 samples of milk were obtained and submitted for Bacteriological Analysis to the Public Health Laboratory Service. Details of the results are tabulated below :—

Total No. of Samples	Designation of Sample	Analysis Result.		
		Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory	Test Void
5	Ungraded Milk	5	—	—
12	Tuberculin Tested Milk (Farm bottled)	10	2	—
22	Pasteurised Milk	17	4	1
10	Pasteurised School Milk	8	—	2
5	Sterilised Milk	5	—	—

RODENT CONTROL.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Your Authority continued to employ a Rodent Operator on a part-time basis. During the year, 226 private premises and 40 business premises were treated, and the value of the operator and the Ministry's method of treatment can be assessed by the regular requests which are received for the services of the Department from certain of the Industrial concerns who no doubt will always retain a floating population of Rodents which by regular treatment from the Department can be kept at reduced numbers. The new "Anti Coagulant" poison was brought into use with advantage during the year, and has been successfully used as a poison bait on allotments and farms.

During the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1954, two maintenance treatments were given to the Public Sewers in your District. There is no doubt that this regular treatment is a means whereby the rat population can be kept very much reduced.

The cost of the work of treatment to private premises and Sewer Maintenance ranks for financial assistance from the Ministry, and is claimed for in "Block Grant."

INFECTIOUS DISEASE PREVENTION.

235 visits were made in connection with the control of Infectious Diseases. The homes of all notified cases were visited and terminal disinfections were carried out.

The undermentioned is a summary of the premises treated during the year.

Houses.	Rooms.	Cause.
95	165	Scarlet Fever
1	5	Meningitis
20	31	Tuberculosis
2	3	Other medical causes
<hr/>	<hr/>	
Total	118	204
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